

15 FEB 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Agency Planning Group for a Mechanically Integrated Reporting and Communications System

SUBJECT : Intelligence Watch Officer Group (IWOG)

1. The Intelligence Watch Officer Group (IWOG) of Requirements Division, FI Staff, assumed as of 6 February 1960 responsibility for the dissemination of certain categories of especially important incoming intelligence cables received by Cable Secretariat during off-duty hours. Plans call for extending IWOG's responsibility in the near future to all such cables received during off-duty hours. Ultimately, it is intended that the Group will disseminate all urgent cables 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

2. It is believed that this new method of disseminating cables will serve three principal purposes:

a. It will speed up the handling of cables. Prior to the activation of IWOG, cables could be disseminated only by action divisions. This often caused delays of several hours in the dissemination of cables arriving at night and on weekends and holidays. Such delays can now be eliminated.

b. The fact that action divisions will no longer process important cables received during off-duty hours makes it incumbent upon the Field to write disseminable reports, a consummation long and devoutly wished.

c. Reports personnel in the operating divisions will be relieved of the burden of processing incoming cables and will be able to devote themselves to other, more important tasks--for example, the development of better guidance of reporting.

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Deputy Chief, FI/RQM

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